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HEAVY CLASH RAGES AS RED ARMY MOVES FROM BARANOV AREA

Vistula Front Sees Start of Soviet Winter Offensive; Surprise Element Absent

Domei

BERLIN, January 13.—The long expected Soviet winter offensive has started on the Vistula front, German quarters announced today. After extraordinarily strong artillery preparations, the Red Army yesterday started their offensive on the western front of their Baranov bridgehead with numerous infantry divisions and tank formations while secondary attacks were carried out south of the Vistula and in the northern part of the Baranov bridgehead.

Two Soviet tank formations, which initiated the largescale attack in the Vistula bridgehead west of Baranov, ran up against concentrated German artillery fire and were engaged by German panzer forces which already during the first hours destroyed at least 78 Soviet tanks. Attacks of secondary importance launched south of the Vistula in the northern portion of the Baranov bridgehead were immediately repulsed and violent fighting is still going on against Marshal Konjev's divisions at some breaches in the western front of the bridgehead.

Whether the Soviet command intends to extend its gigantic winter offensive to the East Prussian fronts remains to be seen, but it is learned that during the past 24 hours, the Soviets carried out intense bombardment against the German positions on both sides of Rominten Heath. Numerous attacks in battalion strength collapsed within the scope of concentrated German defense fire.

In Hungary, only local fighting developed between Lake Balaton and the Danube and Soviet attacks against the southeastern part of Budapest were warded off by the defending garrison after hard fighting.

Concerning the new Soviet winter offensive, the German military spokesman today declared that the Soviet enterprise had been expected and that the new major operation was forced upon the Soviet command in view of the prevailing situation on the Eastern Front.

The Soviet calculation is to shake-up the entire German eastern front, he stated, but that element of surprise which plays an important part in all military operations is completely lacking in the new Soviet winter offensive. Large troop concentrations in the rear of the Soviet lines had been observed by German ground and air reconnaissance for some time and German defense plans had been arranged accordingly, he said.

The spokesman revealed that the winter offensive involved focal points at the Baranov bridgehead and the East Prussian frontier district while in the other sectors including the fighting on the Hungarian-Slovakian frontier Soviet attacks are strategically only tying-down or relief operations.

SICILIAN REBELS SUBDUED

Cosmo, Last Stronghold, Surrenders Says Bonomi Regime

Domei

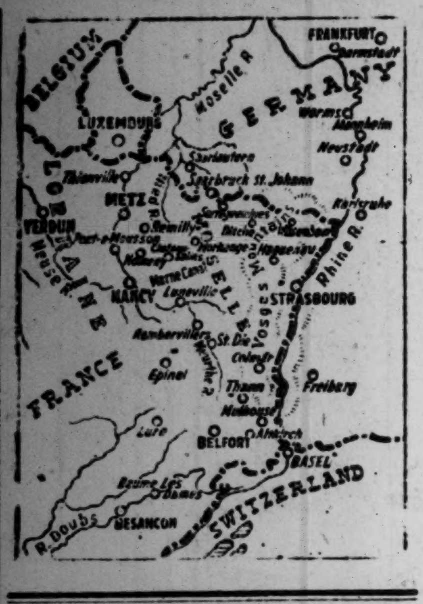
LISBON, January 12.—The city of Cosmo, last stronghold of the Sicilian rebels has finally surrendered, the Bonomi regime announced today, according to a Rome dispatch. The communique said that the insurgents have released the captured regulars and that peace and order have been restored throughout Ragusa.

Enraged by the Bonomi regime's maladministration, the Sicilians had risen in revolt some time ago and engaged in armed clashes with troops dispatched there by the same regime. With the participation of American contingents in the move to suppress the revolt, the rebels seem to been forced to surrender.

Freeing Military Prisoners

Special to the Nippon Times

ZURICH, January 13.—Following the truce signed between the ELAS delegates and the British military authorities, Lieutenant General Ronald Scobie, British Commander in Greece, announced today that an agreement has been reached between the British officials and the EAM Leftist Party that prisoners will be released, an Athens report revealed today. This will include all British military prisoners and at the same time, the British will release an equal number of ELAS groups.



ENEMY ACTION SLACKENS IN ARDENNES WAR SECTOR

Germans Carry Out Delaying Actions, but Continue Advance in Alsace Area

Domei

BERLIN, January 13.—The tenacity of enemy attacks in the Ardennes battlefields is slackening owing to German counterblows and movements and generally the situation in the entire sector is fluid, German quarters announced today. The Germans are at present carrying out delaying actions and presumably the full force of their reserve assault forces have not yet been utilized by them.

Yesterday, the bulge of the German salient in the Ardennes shifted eastward toward Laroche and south of Wiltz, where the main fighting developed. American 1st army troops attacking from the north in the Salm Valley gained little ground and gains scored by the British and Canadian troops pressing from the northwest and west only corresponded proportionately to the scheduled German disengagement movement moving eastward beyond Laroche.

Only the American 3rd army thrusting from the south at the two focal points, near Bastogne and the new focal point south of Wiltz, scored some costly penetrations which were either blocked or entirely eliminated in powerful German counterthrusts.

In the Alsace sector, meanwhile, enemy counteraction was strengthened, but insufficient to restore the initiative lost by Patch and DeTassigny or to stem the slow but steady progress of the German attacking columns south of Bitsch, in the Maginot Line north of Haguenau forest and in the Rhine plain south of Strasbourg.

IRAN HATES BRITISH, YANKS

Opposition Flares Up Blaming Them For Food Shortage

Domei

STOCKHOLM, January 13.—Opposition of the Iranian population to the British forces in Iran and to American experts employed in the various Iranian Government offices has increased considerably, according to a Teheran dispatch.

Reports said that both the British and Americans are held responsible for the food shortage prevailing throughout the country. It is stated that all means of transportation in middle and south Iran have been confiscated for military use so that no food transports are available for the civilian population.

Resuming U.S.-Finnish Ties

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 13.—The U.S. State Department announced today the United States is resuming diplomatic relations with Finland on an informal basis and that Washington is sending a foreign service officer to Helsinki with the personnel rank of minister, a Washington report revealed today. The Department pointed out that this does not mean that the United States Government is resuming formal diplomatic relations with Finland. It will be recalled that the United States broke off relations with Finland last June after all efforts to arrange a Soviet-Finnish peace failed.

To Discuss War Situation

Domei

STOCKHOLM, January 13.—Discussions will take place in the British House of Lords and House of Commons on the war situation on January 18 and 19, in the course of which Prime Minister Winston Churchill is to deliver an address in connection with the international situation, it was announced by the British Government today, according to a London dispatch.

DEGAULLISTS RESENTFUL OVER 'BIG 3' CONFERENCE

Paris Circles Voice Dissatisfaction Because France Not Invited to Talks

Domei

LISBON, January 13.—French quarters are dissatisfied with the anti-Axis, according to the Gazette de Lausanne, for the reason that Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin want to hold their coming conference alone without a French representation, according to a French report.

The paper said that Parisian circles are frankly voicing dissatisfaction because General Charles de Gaulle is obviously not participating in the coming conference. It claimed that if France is not represented, Marshal Stalin in certain cases will be facing alone the opposite views of Roosevelt and Churchill. Should France be included in the talks, it pointed out, Degaulle could support his Moscow ally and would be in full accord with Moscow presumably also on the problem of Poland and the Balkans.

F.D.R's Paris Trip Probable

Domei

LISBON, January 13.—Regarding the visit of Stephen Early, President Roosevelt's personal secretary to the Headquarters of General Dwight Eisenhower, Commander-in-Chief of the Anti-Axis Invasion Forces, in the near future, the U.S. War Department made the following announcement today in the form of a memorandum to the press according to a Washington dispatch:

The forthcoming visit of Early to Eisenhower's Headquarters has been approved by President Roosevelt for a period of several weeks beginning February 1. Early is expected to aid the Headquarters in an advisory capacity on matters concerning general public relations.

In this connection, American political circles are of the opinion that Roosevelt's visit to Paris has become more probable due to Early's trip to Europe.

SUBASIC MAY DISREGARD KING PETER'S OPPOSITION

May Join With Tito Despite Royal Disapproval—Yugoslav Ruler Assailed

Domei

STOCKHOLM, January 13.—The exile Yugoslav regime in London headed by Premier Ivan Subasic appears to have decided to effect the union with Marshal Joseph "Tito" Brozovitch, Commander-in-Chief of the Yugoslav Partisan Army, in disregard of King Peter's disapproval, states a London dispatch.

Assailing the King, the Yugoslav regime, in a BBC broadcast today, declared that the Tito-Subasic agreement was designed to unify and strengthen Yugoslavia and that those who fail to understand the import of the agreement can be charged as being blind to the real political situation.

King Peter, at first, intended to demand the resignation of Premier Subasic and then to form the emigre regime exclusively with his supporters but in view of the support which Subasic received from Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Premier Josef Stalin, he gave up the scheme and issued his statement of January 11, according to information from a diplomatic correspondent of the British Newspaper, Union.

Since the British Foreign Office, today, made public its support of the Tito-Subasic agreement, the Yugoslav ruler now finds himself completely isolated.

Briggs Made Senator

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 13.—As successor to Senator Harry S. Truman of Missouri, who will soon be sworn in as the new Vice-President of the United States succeeding retiring Vice-President Henry A. Wallace, Governor F. C. Donnell of Missouri today appointed Frank B. Briggs of Macon, Missouri, to serve the unexpired term of Truman, who has still two years to run, according to a Washington report. Briggs is a newspaper publisher and has been a State Senator.

Montevideo Heat-Struck

Domei

STOCKHOLM, January 13.—Montevideo, the Uruguayan capital, today, was suffering from terrific heat with the thermometer registering 49 degrees Centigrade, according to a dispatch from that city.

7 More Citations Issued by Army For Exemplary Actions in Battle

The issuance of citations to the Nomoto Bomber Unit, Ichikawa Scout Plane Unit, Tazoe Air Unit, a Unit attached to the Meiktyila airfield, Captain Sabura Nakamura, Okada Unit, and the Tanaka Section have now been brought to the knowledge of His Majesty the Emperor, it was announced by the War Ministry on Sunday.

The War Ministry's announcement follows:

"Those who were granted citations for their brilliant and meritorious achievements in aerial operations in the South Pacific and Burma as well as in the Ichang operations in Central China, and whose brave deeds have been brought to the knowledge of His Majesty the Emperor follow:

Nomoto Bomber Unit

"Under the command of Shigeo Nomoto the above since the early part of November 19, 1944, assumed the task of smashing the enemy bases on Morotai Island and Western New Guinea and the air strength massed at these places thereby restricting the activities of the numerically superior enemy forces.

"Particularly, the Nomoto Bomber Unit made a great contribution toward the Japanese operations in the Philippine area when it made a surprise attack on Morotai at dawn of November 6.

Ichikawa Scout Plane Unit

"The above under the command of Major Kurayasu Ichikawa made outstanding contributions to the war effort in reconnaissance operations over the northern part of Australia and Western New Guinea.

"When the enemy forces landed on Morotai and Leyte islands, the said unit made full reports on the enemy's air and sea strength despite the presence of hostile planes, thereby contributing greatly toward the whole operations.

Tazoe Air Unit

"Under the able leadership of Lieutenant General Noboru Tazoe all the officers and men of the above unit, fully confident of final victory and imbued with a high fighting spirit, accomplished various difficult operations against a numerically superior enemy air force. The contributions made by the above unit toward the Japanese operations in Burma are great.

Unit Attached to the Meiktyila Airfield

"The above unit attached to the airfield at Meiktyila, the strategic point in Central Burma, which cooperated with other Japanese Air Units in face of the activity of enemy planes, damaged 62 aircraft in counterattacking hostile air formations. Great exploits were established on December 10 when the said unit blasted 15 planes out of 33 P-47 fighters that came attacking.

Captain Saburo Nakamura

"The above, as Commander of the Fighter Plane Unit, succeeded the great career of the late Major General Tateo Kato, Hero God of the Air. The Captain was the possessor of a supreme sense of loyalty, exquisite personality, warm heart and high sense of responsibility as well as of a fiery spirit. In command of the Attack Unit, the above rendered distinguished service every time he went into action, thus facilitating the actions of his unit.

"On May 4, 1942, the Captain shot down an enemy plane attacking the plane carrying the Commander of the Attack Unit which was carrying on the mission of an air assault against the Poshan airfield, thus saving the latter from the jaws of death. Since then, in assaults against enemy terrain or in counterattacking hostile raiders, he went into action as many as 154 times. He attacked Yunnan, Tinskyia, Imphal, Chittagong, the Bay of Bengal and other places. In fact, no place around Burma has been unvisited by the Captain in his mission of destruction.

"The enemy planes which the Captain and his Unit shot down or set ablaze totaled approximately 80, of which 20 and an enemy gunboat were destroyed by the Captain himself. Counterattacking 14 B-25's at Meiktyila on October 6, 1944, the Captain shot down two of them in the course of his first action but, unfortunately, he was fatally wounded by an enemy bullet while carrying out his second attack and self-blasted himself. The death of the Captain was mourned by all, from the Unit Commander downward, ample evidence of the exquisite personality which was his.

"The Attack Unit which was under the command of the late Captain was united as one body and followed its late leader in its exemplary spiritual strength.

"For his supreme loyalty, fiery fighting spirit, superb skill and remarkable command, the Captain deserves to be set up as a model airman."

Okada Unit.

"The above, under the command of Sub-Lieutenant Morindo Okada, engaged in the defense of Ichang and Tashan In spite of the fact that its positions had been destroyed by enemy bombings and bombardment on June 9 and 10, 1944, the above unit dealt heavy blows to the enemy hordes when they carried out six assaults. On June 20, the unit, together with the salient of the Corps, annihilated the enemy troops in front of its positions, thus facilitating the subsequent conduct of the Hunan operations."

Tanaka Section

"Commanded by Sub-Lieutenant Setsuzo Tanaka, the above was assigned the task of defending a position in the Siliangshan sector, north of Ichang. In the period from June 25 to 27, 1944, the unit repulsed more than 30 enemy attacks inflicting annihilative blows on about four regiments of enemy troops thus completely frustrating the enemy's counteroffensive in the Ichang sector."

F.D.R. ISSUES WARNING AGAINST WAR OPTIMISM

Army, Navy Officers, Officials Instructed—Production of Peacetime Goods Banned

Domei

LISBON, January 13.—In view of the unexpected turn in the war situation, President Franklin Roosevelt is reported to have sent a message to the Army and Navy officers as well as government officers warning against undue optimism with regard to the progress of the war. Meanwhile American government authorities are desperately attempting to set the domestic structure again on a full wartime footing.

The content of Roosevelt's message follows:

"The war situation has reached a critical phase of the decisive war. At such a time, government officials of all people, should refrain from encouraging undue popular optimism as to the development of the war situation, by either propagandizing the exaggerated news of anti-Axis operations or commenting on the early termination of the war. Such optimism regarding the war situation will greatly hamper armament production and consequently entail grave results."

Reconversion Move Banned

Domei

LISBON, January 13.—The American Board of Wartime Production, on Friday, issued a notification prohibiting the resumption of daily commodity production for the people at large. This notification will apply to the 125 districts where the supply of labor is extremely scarce, says a Washington message.

Increasing Plane Output

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 13.—A new expansion in the war production program covering particularly the increased output of aircraft was announced today by Julius Krug, Chairman of the U.S. War Production Board, who declared that the manufacture of "vital" planes will increase three-fold in the next six months, a Washington dispatch disclosed.

He said that the planes to see increased production are those already high on the production list and named them as the Super Flying Fortresses, C-54 Cargo planes, jet-propelled fighters and all fighters used by the navy.

"We are increasing our arms output, partly to help equip the new French army divisions," he stated. "In all, we expect to produce about two and half billion dollars worth of war weapons."

The new edict issued by the WPA has resulted in the drastic reduction in the manufacture of civilian goods. Many civilian items such as vacuum cleaners and metal razors had been approved for production earlier but Krug's order means that that American home fronters will have to wait a little longer before they can get those things again in quantity.

Anti-Axis Nations Meeting

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 13.—Joseph C. Grew, U.S. Undersecretary of State, declared today that a meeting of all the anti-Axis countries will be held sometime this year, according to a Washington report.

NIPPON FLIERS IN BURMA RAID ENEMY'S AIRFIELD

Fighter Planes Hit Yieu Base; Also Attack Convoy in Akyab Harbor

Domei

BURMA FRONT, January 13.—Japanese fighter planes, yesterday, attacked an enemy transport unit in the area west of Shebo on the Burma Front, and set three trucks ablaze as well as damaging four others.

Other Japanese fighter planes raided the enemy airfield at Yieu and set two enemy planes ablaze. All our men returned safely.

Meanwhile, other Japanese Air Forces raided an enemy convoy in Akyab harbor. In this raid, the Japanese sank one 1,000-ton enemy transport and returned to the base safely.

Enemy Drive Halted

By Courtesy of the Press Section

Japanese Forces in the area west of the Nu River are locked in stiff battles with about seven divisions of the Chungking-Yunnan Expeditionary Forces now stubbornly attacking Wanching from the east and north. In this war sector, the enemy is holding three divisions of troops in the rear.

Two divisions of the enemy's newly organized 1st Army bent on making a thrust toward Namkhan were halted by the Japanese Forces which accounted for about 5,500 enemy officers and men killed or wounded.

On the eastern bank of the Irrawaddy River, about two divisions of the mixed U.S.-Chungking troops, including some Indian soldiers, drove a wedge into the Moro-Lawa area about 40 kilometers north of Mongmit.

The Japanese are also inflicting hammer blows on seven Chungking divisions, including three of the 4th Army and four of the 33rd Army in the area near Kanni, about 140 kilometers west of Mandalay, as well as in the vicinity of Shebo, 60 kilometers northwest of Mandalay.

In mobile sea operations, the enemy forced a landing on the Mayu Peninsula at the end of December. Cooperating with the Air Force, Japanese Land Units are now dealing crushing blows to the invaders.

In the meantime, Japanese Wild Eagles attacked an enemy convoy fully laden with troops in the area off Akyab on the afternoon of January 9, blasting four warcraft, including one heavy cruiser, two large transports, and one landing barge of the 3,000-ton class.

Simultaneously, other Japanese Air Units made a surprise attack on the harbor facilities at Akyab, setting ablaze seven places, as well as causing a large explosion at one place.

Meanwhile, reports indicate that the headquarters of the U.S. air force in the Mariana area has moved to Guam Island.

Large enemy planes are persistently carrying out raids on Chichijima, Hahajima, and Yiojima in the Ogasawara Group. On January 10, enemy planes coming in 20 waves subjected Yiojima to a 10-hour raid.

REICH USING NEW WEAPON

Long-Range Rocket-Type Artillery Harasses U.S. 3rd Army

Domei

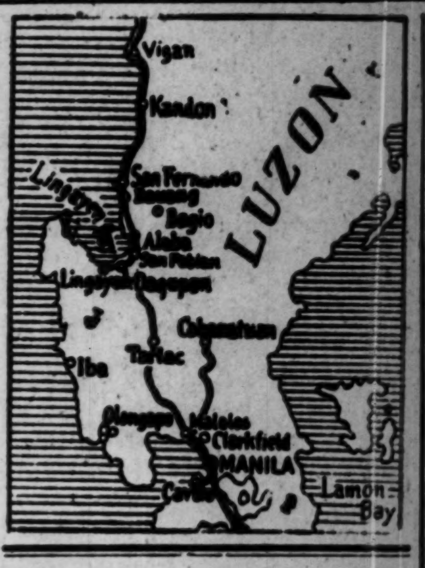
LISBON, January 13.—The Germans are using long-range rocket-type artillery against the American 3rd army areas, a frontline dispatch from the American 3rd army reported today. It said that the projectiles while details were not officially disclosed may be the same type of weapon used against the 1st and 9th armies in mid-December.

V-Arms Worrying British

Domei

STOCKHOLM, January 13.—Futility of combatting the German long-range V-2 weapon has led increasingly to serious discussion of far-fetched plans of defense on England, according to reports reaching here from London.

The News Chronicle, for instance, reported today that the British are hoping to combat the V-2 by changing weather conditions. It suggested that artificial weather conditions should be created during the approach of the bombs whereby it would possibly cause the missiles to drop into the sea instead of on London and southern England. A number of experts, meanwhile, believe that anti-aircraft guns are useless against the V-2 in view of their terrific speed.



BRITISHERS ARE OPPOSED TO U.S. LANDING ON LUZON

London Opinion Fears Anti-Axis Drive on Germany Will Be Weakened

Domei

STOCKHOLM, January 11.—Disapproval of the American landing operations on Luzon Island was voiced today by John Kimsch, Reuter's military correspondent who is in close contact with British military circles. Kimsch asserted that the United States will be compelled to throw great military forces into the Luzon campaign and that this will inevitably result in the weakening of anti-Axis military power on the European Front.

Kimsch's assertion is representative of the British public opinion which has become prevalent of late since the recent anti-Axis setback on the Western Front that the Quebec military principle of attaching more importance to the war in the Pacific should now be replaced by the old Teheran formula to devote more war power to the war in Europe. Since the landing of the American forces on Luzon Island, this assertion has turned overwhelmingly powerful and is now dominating British public opinion.

Kimsch said that the American invasion of Luzon has marked an epoch in anti-Axis world strategy because by that action, the anti-Axis have advertised throughout the world that following the deployment of reserve forces of overwhelming number in the Pacific, they can no longer afford to spare reserves to other war theaters and consequently, they have committed themselves to the Pacific-first principle.

A conspicuous feature of the landing operation on Luzon is, in Kimsch's opinion, that it was planned four or five months ago. General George Marshall, Chief of the U.S. Army General Staff, worked out the plan on the assumption that the war in Europe will be over by January of this year. As a result of the failure of the anti-Axis forces to end the war in Europe by last fall, the Pacific-first principle has naturally come to need close observation again, the Reuter correspondent declared. He added that this was the primary objective of the recent visit to Washington by Richard K. Law, British Minister without Portfolio.

"Nevertheless, the United States High Command ignored the change in war situation and forced the landing on Luzon Island. And what is the result?" Kimsch observed that if the Luzon operations progress favorably, the United States will throw in more reserves while if the Americans are beaten by the Japanese, they will be compelled to deploy more reinforcements.

The correspondent pointed out that whereas the transport of a division from America to the European Front requires only 50,000 tons of shipping and two weeks of time, it takes 200,000 tons of bottoms and from four to five months to dispatch the same force to Luzon Island. "It is superfluous to say," he declared, "that the offensive in the Pacific should be planned in consideration of the progress of the European war situation. Operations planned four months ago are now incompatible with the present situation."

Paris Hit By Electric Curfew

Domei

LISBON, January 13.—Electric current for the Paris population will be reduced to one hour daily beginning tomorrow in addition to other drastic restrictions of electricity and gas owing to a severe coal shortage, it was decreed today by the French Minister of Industrial Production, according to a Paris dispatch. The decree further stated that lighting of shop windows will be prohibited and all shops except food shops must close at 5:30 p.m. Night clubs will also be closed down.

Tani Back in Nanking

Domei

NANKING, January 13.—Masayuki Tani, Japanese Ambassador to Nanking, returned here from Shanghai this afternoon.

ENEMY H.Q. ADMITS STRUGGLES INTENSE IN LINGAYEN SECTOR

Bitter Fight Rages in Eastern Section of U.S. Bridgehead, MacArthur H. Q. Says

Domei

LISBON, January 13.—General Douglas MacArthur's headquarters, in a war communique issued this morning, announced that the struggle between the United States and Japanese Forces off the Lingayen Gulf coast has gradually become intensified and that the two rival forces were locked in bitter engagements at the eastern section of the American bridgehead.

Greater Losses Predicted

Domei

LISBON, January 13.—Greater sacrifices for the American forces in conducting landing operations in the Pacific area were predicted by Rear Admiral Richmond K. Turner, Commander of the Amphibious Force belonging to the U.S. Pacific Fleet, in his statement yesterday, according to a Pearl Harbor dispatch.

Turner said that the forthcoming landing operations in the Pacific area will necessitate greater sacrifices compared with those in the South Pacific and others in the Gilbert, Marshal and Mariana areas. New strategy and technique must be contrived in order to protect transport fleets and safeguard bridgeheads, Turner further declared.

Luzon Operations Vital

Domei

LISBON, January 11.—Speculating on the progress of the Luzon operations and presaging a grand-scale field campaign, on Luzon Island, Robert Trumbell, New York Times military correspondent, made the following statement in its January 9th issue:

The landing of the American forces under General Douglas MacArthur, Commander-in-Chief of the Anti-Axis Forces in Southwestern Pacific, is only a prelude to a forthcoming grand invasion campaign in the Pacific area. In this sense, the Luzon operations will lay a foundation for the Pacific operations. Here, on the island, the Americans will, for the first time, encounter the Japanese field forces.

It cannot be easily speculated how long the Luzon operations will continue, but in the forthcoming struggles, the activities of the U.S. Pacific Fleet will most probably decide the outcome. The mission of the U.S. Pacific Fleet is to hamper the probable assembling of Japanese air and ground forces in the Philippines and to obstruct their concerted operations.

As to the the U.S. air force, the invasion of Luzon Island is the greatest in scale ever launched in the Pacific. The American and Japanese air forces are now battling over the area very near the Japanese mainland, and decisive aerial duels in the future will be unfolded over Luzon Island where the Japanese will be able to mass enormous strength. Japanese bomber planes will be able to fly straight from Japan Proper to the island if they limit their loads. Japanese double-engined fighter planes which hop off from the bases in Kyushu will be able to reach Luzon easily via Taiwan, while those based in China can also fly to Luzon via Taiwan.

Shantung Mops-Up Enemy

Domei

TSINAN, January 13.—The Peace Maintenance Corps of Shantung which is engaged in subjugating the enemy force in the province has announced the brilliant results achieved in the 12 months ending January 8. According to the announcement, the corps participated in 1,948 engagements and during the period, found 19,673 corpses of the enemy soldiers, captured 3,827 men, in addition to 17 light machine guns, 2,776 rifles, 351 pistols, 1,983 hand grenades, 100 horses and large quantities of ammunition, clothing and other war materials.

Ohio Electricians Strike

Domei

LISBON, January 13.—Demanding an increase in the special allowance for overtime work, the employees of the Cleveland Electric Company in Cleveland, Ohio, went on strike yesterday, according to a Washington dispatch. As a result of the strike, various munitions factories in the city remained in complete darkness causing some 100,000 laborers jobless, and the State was enveloped in pitch darkness, it is further revealed.

AIR PARLEY AT CHICAGO HELD COMPLETE FAILURE

Americans, However Succeeded In Gaining Right to Fly Over Other Nations

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, January 12.—For those who hoped that all problems of global flying would be settled now and forever, the International Air Conference at Chicago has been a complete failure, according to the December 12 issue of The Times, London, in its aviation section under the heading, "Five Freedoms."

Having lost his main battle, Lord Swinton "fought the rearguard action" under cover of the five freedoms, The Times stated. Complaining that the freedoms as drawn up were too favorable to the United States, he blocked the way to any agreement. It is said that one British delegate even talked bitterly of "the freedom to strangle small nations."

In a final attempt to end this deadlock, Chairman Adolf Berle presented a "take it or leave it" version of the freedoms, under which the signatory nations would permit, firstly, flying across the territory of any signatory; secondly, landing only to refuel and repair; thirdly, unloading passengers and freight taken on in the planes of a signatory; fourthly, right to bring passengers and freight to the home country; fifthly, picking up passenger and freight along the designated air routes.

After a careful study, Lord Swinton agreed to the first two proposals but objected to the last three, particularly to the fifth which would permit an American plane to fly to Paris via London, picking up passengers in London to transport to Paris. This, he argued, might "freeze out" British short-haul airlines.

The Netherlands and France agreed with Britain, reported The Times, but the other nations, notably the Latin American and Scandinavian countries, agreed to all five proposals. With those countries approving all five proposals, it is reported that the United States will have multilateral agreements. Private American airlines will thereby be able to fly to these countries or expand the present routes as soon as the war situation permits. With the other countries, however, the United States will have to negotiate bilateral agreements.

The conference, however, has accomplished two things, according to The Times, namely, it has given the Americans the right to fly over other nations, a thing which they have long wanted to do, and it has also rigidly fixed fares and quotas.

Fuehrer's Headquarters

January 13

Due to our counterblows, enemy attacks in the Ardennes have decreased in intensity while northeast of Laroche our troops are warding off the locally advanced enemy partly in nocturnal fighting.

In the area southeast of Bastogne, the Americans were pushed back by our counterattack and a front breach achieved the day before was closed. Near Hatten and Rittershoffen in Alsace, the mopping-up of the captured fortification area of the Maginot Line is being continued. The Americans, who all day long had launched futile counterattacks, suffered high losses in our concentrated fire.

South of Erstein our troops have also annihilated the second encircled enemy group. Apart from 450 dead counted, the enemy has lost according to reports so far on hand, 26 officers and more than 700 men were taken prisoner as well as considerable war materials.

Poor weather curtailed fighting activity on the central Italian front. The British made only a single unsuccessful thrust at the Adriatic Coast.

In Hungary only local fighting ensued yesterday between Lake Balaton and the Danube. The enemy launched violent attacks against the southeastern part of Budapest where the attacks were warded off in heavy fighting by our garrison. North of the Danube, our attacks continued to be successful despite the reinforced enemy defense while the Soviet attempts to cut off our spearheads by a flank attack were frustrated. At the southern border of Slovakia, a breakthrough attempt of several Soviet rifle divisions between Losonc and Hernad were repelled.

At the Vistula front, the long expected winter offensive has been opened by the Soviets. After an exceedingly strong artillery preparation the enemy at first attacked the western front of the Baranov bridgehead with numerous rifle divisions and tank formations and embittered fighting has flared up while secondary attacks south of the Vistula and in the northern sector of the Baranov bridgehead were smashed.

In the East Prussian border area heavy enemy artillery fire swept our positions at both sides of Rominten Heath. Numerous attacks carried on by the Soviets in battalion strength were warded off while in the northern part of the Memel bridgehead, several enemy attacks failed.

The enemy air force staged only single fighter activity over the Reich territory during day time yesterday. In the evening hours British harassing planes bombed the Rhineland and Westphalia. In an ineffective attack by 40 British four-engined bombers on the Norwegian coast near Bergen, 18 German fighters shot down 11 enemy planes while a night-fighter, moreover, shot down six heavy enemy bombers over the Bay of Kiel.

The retaliation fire on London is being continued.

Grim Actualities of Philippine War Front Told by Newsman After 6-Month Sojourn

By TAKEO SHINMYO
Of the Military Press Corps

After serving for a half a year as war correspondent attached to the Japanese Fleet and Navy Air Forces in the Philippine area, this reporter, under the special order of the military authorities at the front, recently returned home chiefly for the purpose of informing the people behind the guns of the grim realities of the first firing line and to convey to them the wishes of the officers and men fighting there.

First of all, I wish to tell the people that the battle of the Philippines is not such an easy task as some people here are apt to consider.

Although my report will deal mainly with the progress of the Battle of Leyte and will not touch upon the latest developments on Luzon Island, nevertheless, I hope it will adequately describe the main trend of the progress of the war in that area.

What the soldiers on the front, those heroes of daring closing-in assaults, seamen engaged in convoy duties and the gallant members of the Special Attack Corps, want to have the people behind the guns know above anything else is the extraordinary grim nature of the war which Japan is fighting at present. How often I was asked to enlighten clearly and unmistakably the people on the home front on this one fact! How often these officers and men complained of the fact that the people back home, while blindly idolizing the heroic members of the Special Attack Corps, remain unaware of the seriousness of the war situation!

Seen Vital to War Outcome

The Battle of the Philippines is not merely a struggle for the maintenance of the Archipelago itself. It is a battle of decisive importance upon which hinges the maintenance or loss of our maritime traffic with the Southern Regions. It is a battle upon which depends the ultimate outcome of the War of Greater East Asia, that is, the rise or otherwise of the Japanese Empire.

The war theater involves not only the Philippine Archipelago alone but also Taiwan, the Southwestern Islands and Japan Proper itself. Let us scan the map and study the operational radius of the enemy air force and task force based on the Marianas. Then we can see that Japan Proper, Taiwan and the Southwestern Islands lie on the same arc that runs through the Philippines. Japan Proper now constitutes the first line of battle. The conception that the Philippines constitutes the first line and Japan Proper the rear is a mistaken notion of the passing century which did not know aircraft and task forces.

The main principle of enemy strategy in their Pacific offensive is, as everyody will readily understand when he recalls the war developments since Guadalcanal, to utilize air power as the principal driving force. Every enemy operation has been carried out in accordance with the same strategic principle, that is, first, to disrupt the Japanese commissary lines close to the foremost front by air power, or by the combination of air power and underseacraft and then, after gaining air supremacy over the area, to deploy naval forces and gain control of the sea. In the course of their operations for air power over some designated area, the enemy simultaneously carried out air attacks also on the second and third Japanese lines in the rear, thereby to ensure the success on the first line.

Enemy Objectives Noted

It is still fresh in our memory that the September 21 and 22 air attacks on Northern Philippines by deck planes were preceded by frequent assaults on the southern and central parts of the Archipelago by the land-based aircraft from New Guinea and Morotai Islands since August 1. We also recall that likewise, the October 20 landing on Leyte Island was preceded by air attacks by carrier-based planes on Okinawa and Taiwan on October 10 and 12 respectively.

Now, the enemy has crossed the Central Philippines, from Leyte to Mindoro, and has started the invasion of Luzon. The success or failure of the War of Greater East Asia now hinges, on the outcome of the Battle of Luzon.

In view of this enemy tactics, it can be safely asserted that the frequent B-29 bombing raids on Japan Proper are aimed, not only at striking the source of Japan's air power but also at facilitating some new operations which the enemy is hoping to launch in the near future.

If we are to describe the Leyte and Mindoro struggles in a word, we may say that they are but a replica of the Battle of the Solomons fought more than two years ago. If there is any difference, the situation is now more serious than at that time, for the enemy command of the air has gradually extended to Luzon Island from the central and southern Philippines, striving to wrest from the Japanese the control of the air over the whole region of the Philippines. Not only so but the American Navy threatens to get control of the "inland waters" of the Philippines.

The Americans crossed the waters between Cebu, Panay and Negros Islands to the Sulu Sea, and landed troops at San Jose on Mindoro Island. The American task force, steaming into Lingayen Bay, bombarded the coastal area. These facts speak for themselves. The landing operation is a continuing process, for the task of the enemy is not finished with the putting ashore of a contingent. Unless the enemy feels assured of seaborne supplies, landing will not be attempted. It may be seen from this fact that control of the adjacent waters of the Philippines is very near falling into the hands of the enemy.

Battle for Air Control

The control of the sea depends upon the control of the air over the waters. If the enemy controls the adjacent or internal waters of the Philippines, which comprise an immense number of small islands with narrow seas and straits between them, this means that the enemy has air forces strong enough to establish control of the air. After landing on Leyte Island, the Americans made great exertions to establish airfields at different points of the island, while sending land-based planes, P-38's and B-24's, from Morotai and other islands, so as to acquire supremacy of the air over Leyte Island. The air arm of the American Navy, acting in cooperation with other forces, attacked Luzon Island every three days on the one hand, while sending carrier based planes to the Leyte air bases on the other hand.

After landing troops on Leyte Island, the enemy transports, numbering from fifty to a hundred under escort of the navy, entered and left Leyte Bay every day. The unloading of the enemy supplies continued day and night. Deadly struggles ensued between the American and Japanese air forces, the former trying to cut our supply lines and the latter protecting these lines. In addition, the enemy established a base for torpedo boats on the west side of the island.

The Battle of the Philippines began on October 10, when the American task force made air attacks as far as Okinawa Islands. This was followed by strong enemy forces appearing off Taiwan and the Philippines. Delivering counterattacks, our Forces inflicted enormous losses on the enemy, establishing records of exploits to the eternal glory of the Japanese fighting forces. It must, however, be frankly admitted that although the enemy suffered enormous losses, the losses on our side were by no means negligible. It must be clear to everybody that large-scale encounters cannot be continued or repeated over a prolonged period. It is the steady and unspectacular work that wins the battle, a truth which needs stressing always and especially at this stage of the Pacific War.

After the naval and air battles off the Philippines, fierce struggles developed in and over Leyte Island between the Americans and the Japanese Forces, who put forth superhuman efforts to maintain our supply lines over the sea, while at the same time delivering terrific attacks on the bases established by the Americans. The struggles continued day and night. What the maintenance of the supply lines over the waters in face of the air supremacy of the enemy, can very easily be imagined. It was in fact the repetition of the Solomon battles. Not only the control of the air but the command of the sea was falling into the enemy hands. The theatre of the struggles lay not in a southwestern corner of the Pacific but within the internal lines for the defense of Greater East Asia.

Situation More Serious

From this, it will at once be seen that the situation was incomparably more serious than the case of the Solomon battles. Even those who with no serious concern may have looked upon the Solomon battles, as struggles in a far-off region, will have by this time revised their views, for the struggles over the Solomons were events much nearer home. There is no need to point out the possible repercussion of the Philippine situation on countries of the Greater East Asia sphere.

The Americans moved from Leyte to Mindoro, and then to Luzon Island, revealing the objective they are driving at. In the midst of the Leyte struggles, the Americans extended their operations to other points. In the Philippines, which comprise some seven thousand islands, the acquisition or loss of a couple of islands does not matter to the enemy, except for the purpose of using them as a steppingstone to further progress. In case they effect landing on an island, the Americans make every effort to turn the island into an air base, and if this is done, they take the next step, leaving on the island such a force as may hold its own against the Japanese. They jump over two or three islands or even many islands, in order to extend the range for their aircraft, and when a new position is acquired, the same process is repeated. This, in short, has been the tactics pursued by the Americans since Guadalcanal days.

It is now three months since the start of the American landing on the Philippines, or six months since the beginning of the American air attack on the archipelago. The battles raging in and over the islands constitute a war of attrition on an immense scale. If it is remembered that material supplies decided the Battles of the Solomon, it should not be difficult for any Japanese to realize what our forces in the Philippines are demanding of the people at home.

Violent Battles Raging

Our sailors engaged in transporting supplies to Leyte Island are maintaining death-defying efforts, lest the island should fall into the same position as Guadalcanal. The Japanese air forces are blasting the enemy airfields without interruption, and the conflagrations resulting from our attacks may be seen from the west coast of the island or even from the town of Cebu across the waters. But still the warfare of attrition is being waged with undiminished violence.

A long spell of rain has continued an Leyte Island since the first landing of the Americans. As nearly all houses have been destroyed ambulances are improvised in the jungles for our sick and wounded. What this means in the tropical climate may sooner be imagined than described. Moreover, enemy guerrillas are interfering with our operations.

Despite these circumstances, the Japanese Forces on Leyte Island are in the highest of spirits. The assaults repeated by our storming parties are striking terror into the heart of the enemy, the powerful enemy guns being rendered ineffective by the ramming methods employed by these parties. Another terror to the enemy is the appearance of new weapons on our side. The enemy forces in the island include many Australians who are boys of seventeen or eighteen years, and who are described by members of our storming parties as "crybabies." Under the enemy control of the air, the maintenance of supplies to Leyte is attended with indescribable, difficulties. The morale of the Japanese Forces on the island is as high as can be, and their strength also, in point of numbers, is still considerable.

On October 25, the major part of the American task force that appeared off Suluan Island was sent to the bottom by the Shikishima Squadron of the First Kamikaze Special Attack Corps of our Naval Air Force, the vanguard of the death-defying corps. The First Kamikaze Special Attack Corps, as announced by the naval authorities, comprises nine squadrons with the Shikishima Squadron as the vanguard. The special attack corps of the Naval Air Arm, in close cooperation with the special attack corps of the Army, have been carrying out incessant attacks on the Americans, with the ramming method striking terror into the enemy. It is no longer necessary to hold naming ceremonies, for the entire air force of the Army and the Navy constitute the special attack corps.

Supplies Vital for Victory

This is no exaggeration, but a simple statement of fact, for the air battles over the Philippines are an uninterrupted series of struggles unprecedented in intensity. Indeed, the ramming tactics is not a new invention, but an application of the fighting spirit of the Japanese to an emergency situation. In fighting an enemy superior in strength, any ordinary method would be of little avail. The development of fighting is outstripping the supply of munitions. It is absolutely impossible to put off fighting until enough supplies are secured, or limit fighting within the compass of the supplies, for, as is stressed both at home and at the front, the rise and fall of Japan depends upon the outcome of the war.

The entire Air Force, from top to bottom, is thoroughly imbued with the spirit of the Special Attack Corps. It was at the battle fought off Luzon Island on October 15 that Rear-Admiral Seibun Arima rammed his plane into an enemy aircraft carrier, in order to inspire (if this was ever necessary) his men with his example. The members of the Special Attack Corps never think of returning, once their planes hop off. Taking aerial warfare as a whole, the method of deliberately ramming as adopted by our men, minimizes our losses, while at the same time it deprives the enemy of the chance of escape by evasion.

Until the beginning of December, only isolated enemy planes carried out reconnaissance flights over Luzon Island, but the attacks of the American aircraft has since increased in frequency and magnitude. Simultaneous with the first American landing on Leyte Island, British carrier-based planes were observed participating in the operation. The British apparently did the same at the San Jose landing which occurred on December 15. The America aircraft carriers in the Pacific, which totalled one hundred, have been reduced to thirty, after the battles off Taiwan and the Philippines. This can no longer be called formidable in modern warfare, but we must reckon with the land-based American aircraft.

If we consult a map, we can at once see that in point of land bases for aircraft, the Japanese are in a very strong position compared with the Americans, whose airfields in the Philippines are limited to Leyte and Mindoro Islands.

Planes Urgently Needed

In this respect, the Battle of the Philippines is entirely different from the Solomon struggles, for the Americans are not in a position to carry out concentrated attacks, which they did on Rabaul. Speaking of geographical positions, it may be said that southern Taiwan occupies the position of Rabaul, while Leyte may be compared to Guadalcanal.

From what has preceded, it will clearly be seen that the issues of the Battle of the Philippines depends upon the supply of aircraft superior in quality and adequate in number. Now that our entire Air Force has become the Special Attack Corps, it requires no strong imagination to deduce consequences. The Americans still possess thirty aircraft carriers in the Pacific. Supposing the American shipping bottoms available for the Pacific warfare are five million tons, and supposing the average tonnage of a ship to be five thousand tons, this will make a thousand ships. The loss of four or five hundred of them will spell an irretrievable disaster to the Americans, who have to maintain long supply lines. In many cases, the ramming of one plane is enough to send one ship to the bottom. But enough of the arithmetics of warfare.

The whole nation must now constitute the Special Attack Corps.

U.S. TRYING TO CONVERT CHINA INTO WAR ARSENAL

Desperately Working on Plan to Supply Arms to Its Forces On the Continent

By Arrangement With the Asahi

CANTON, January 11.—With the apparent failure of the economic self-sufficiency project set forth by the Chungking regime three years ago, due to the grand-scale continental operation conducted by the Japanese Forces, the United States is now desperately planning to convert China's hinterland into an arsenal in view of the urgent necessity of supplying a far greater amount of arms and ammunition to the China-based American forces.

Due to the loss of the eastern half of the China Continent by the Chungking regime and the decrease of its political potentialities, it is now impossible for the Chungking regime to set up any new economic structure with the cooperation of the masses. Because of the complete collapse of Chungking's economic structure, Chiang's regime must now solely depend on America in carrying out is economic activities.

America, on her part, fully realizes the importance of Chungking in order to attain her ambitions at the latter's sacrifice, particularly when attempting landing operations on the China Continent and large-scale counteroffensives in Burma. Chungking's cooperation with America, particularly in economic fields at the latter's initiative, is indispensable for America.

In view of the fact that America is now confronted with the difficulty of supplying the Chungking forces, not to speak of the China-based American troops, with more arms and ammunition, it is urgent for America to convert China's hinterland into the American arsenal.

Facts Worth Noting

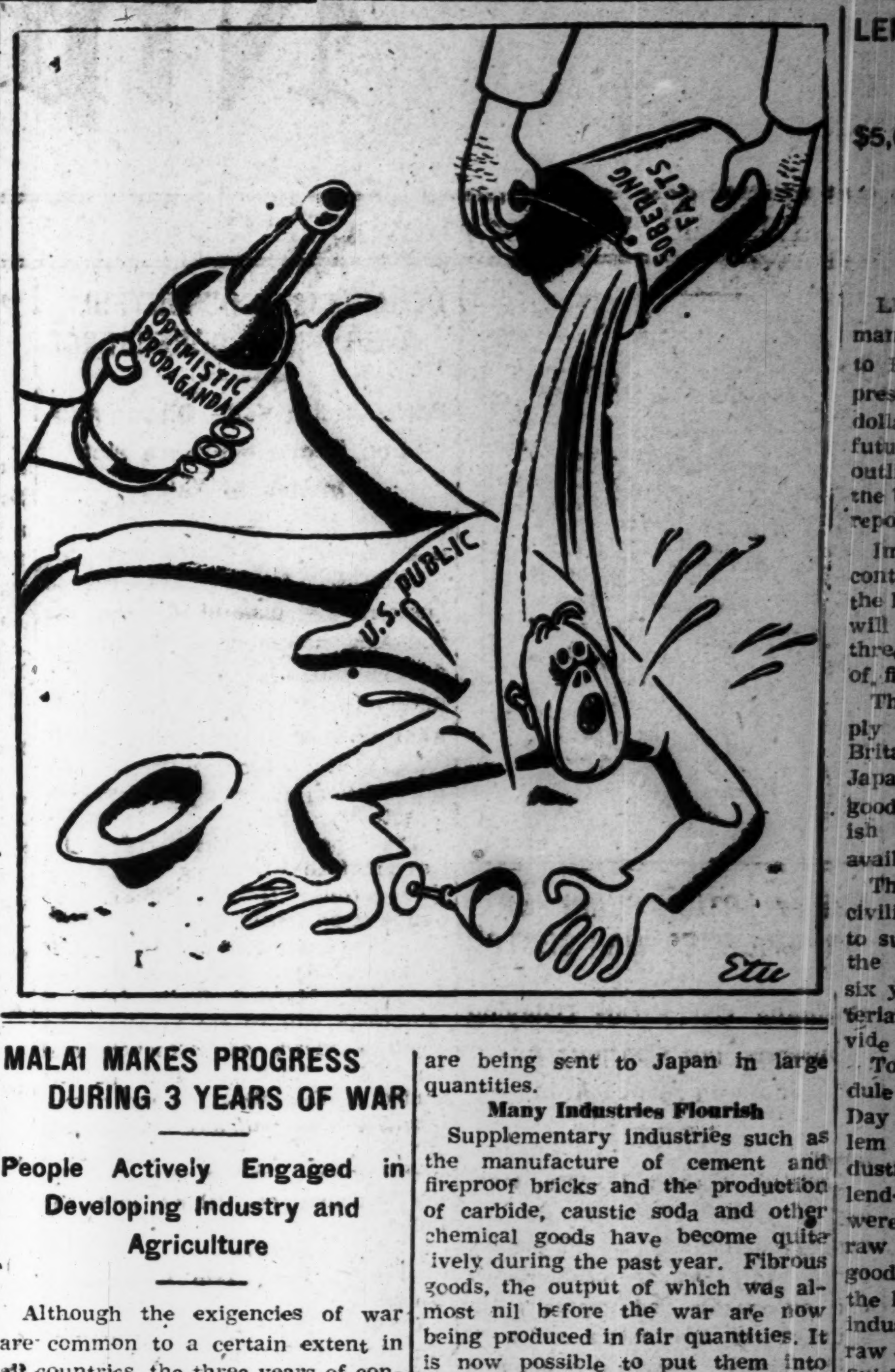
Belgian Government

Hubert Pierlot—Premier
De Schrijver—Deputy Premier
Paul Spaak—Foreign Minister
Verbeet—Justice Minister
Romsee—Interior Minister
Victor de Laveley—Education Minister
Gamille Gutt—Finance Minister
Demes—National Defense Minister
Dlaabarre Derquelinnes—Agriculture Minister
Leon Delsinne—Supplies Minister
Delruelle—Economic Affairs Minister
Van Acker—Labor & Social Welfare Minister
ister
Albert de Vleeschauwer—Colonies Minister
Vos—Public Works Minister
Martaux—Health Minister
Ronse Vaux—Communications Minister
Delsinne—Nutrition Minister
Charles Visscher—Minister Without Portfolio
Demany—Same
Dispy—Same
Leon Degrelle—Head of Rexist & Also of Wallon Volunteers
Baron de Cartier de Marchienne—Ambassador to London
Delvaux de Fenffe—Ambassador to Chungking
Count Robert Vanderstraton-Ponthoz—Ambassador to U.S.
Baron Jules Guillaume—Ex-Ambassador to Chungking.

Cunningham Escapes Death

Domei

LISBON, January 13.—Sir Arthur Cunningham, British air marshal, had a narrow escape from death at the beginning of the German offensive in the west, Reuter report from London disclosed for the first time today. It said that the car in which Cunningham was riding through the Ardennes suddenly found itself trapped by German parachutists who opened fire on the car but Cunningham managed to escape.



MALAI MAKES PROGRESS DURING 3 YEARS OF WAR

People Actively Engaged in Developing Industry and Agriculture

Although the exigencies of war are common to a certain extent in all countries, the three years of conflict finds Malai definitely changed for the better, shaking itself free of the erstwhile British colonial color and is contributing a great share in prosecuting this war of emancipation.

Three years ago when the Japanese Forces landed at Kota Bharu and Singora, the local inhabitants were suffering under British exploitation and forced to live a miserable life due to discrimination and racial prejudice, which was plainly observable in various fields of activities. With the establishment of the Japanese Military Administration, however, came the collapse of the whole colonial system, removing from the minds of the people the mistaken idea that they were "inferior" to the British.

In order to raise the cultural level of the people, the number of primary schools controlled by the Government which totalled only 1,760 before the war was increased to 4,000, and the Japanese language was added to the subjects taught. Today, more than 43,000 children have graduated from these schools, all of them speaking Japanese as easily as their own language.

Technical Schools Opened

For the older people, normal and technical schools, training institutes and medical colleges have been opened. Some 30,000 graduates from these institutions are currently cooperating with the Military Administration in medical, educational, judicial and other fields. Such a rapid diffusion of the Japanese language among the local people is not just a simple linguistic triumph over English, but the crystallization of the cultural guidance given to the people in the midst of three years of the gigantic war.

Malai's supply of various resources is also playing a vital role in the prosecution of the war. Bauxite, titanium, manganese and other materials essential in producing aircraft and scientific weapons are made available in a substantial volume, thanks to the priority policy given [illegible] these metals. The difficulties of obtaining rubber, tin, latex, copra and palm oil etc. have now been surmounted and they are being sent to Japan in large quantities.

Many Industries Flourish

Supplementary industries such as the manufacture of cement and fireproof bricks and the production of carbide, caustic soda and other chemical goods have become quite lively during the past year. Fibrous goods, the output of which was almost nil before the war are now being produced in fair quantities. It is now possible to put them into practical use since textile machines have been brought over from Japan and installed at various plants.

Foodstuff production, too, is making favorable headway. The area of cultivated land, which was only about 322,500 acres under British rule, has been expanded to 1,172,000 acres, where rice and a variety of vegetables are grown with good results. The outstanding success in the increased foodstuff production campaign is the establishment of agricultural colonies in the provinces of Wellesley, Endau and Bahau, where settlers comprising Chinese and Eurasians are given pieces of land free and are making their community self-sufficient.

The scheme at Endau, or more commonly known as "New Shonan," particularly is successful and villages are now capable of supplying not only their own needs but also to export any surplus to neighboring provinces.

Particular pains have been taken by the authorities for the benefit of local inhabitants in regards to stimulating them to do whatever they can in their capacity, however trivial it may be, in prosecuting the war. Many youths have spontaneously offered their services for the Heiho (Auxiliary Servicemen) and the Volunteer Army and are determined to defend their land with their own hands. The majority of these young men will be given training eventually to form their own automobile, transport, engineering and of her corps, thus strengthening the defense of Malai in concert with the Japanese Forces and civilians.

Stettinius Attending Parley

Domei

LISBON, January 13.—The U.S. Department of State announced today that Edward Stettinius, Secretary of State, accompanied by Nelson Rockefeller, Assistant Secretary of State, will attend the Foreign Minister's Conference of the American Republics to be held in Mexico City on February 15, according to a Washington report. Stettinius is to attend the conference as the chief delegate of the United States, added the announcement.

LEND-LEASE SUPPLIES TO BRITAIN TO CONTINUE

$5,000,000,000 Per Year to Be Given By U.S. Till Germany Is Defeated

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 10.—Until Germany's defeat the lend-lease supplies to Britain will be continued at the present rate of about five billion dollars per year, according to the future schedule of the lend-lease as outlined and proposed last week by the United States committee of three, reports Time on December 11.

Immediately after Victory Day, continued the official statement on the lend-lease, the supplies to Britain will be whittled down to about forty-three per cent of the present sum of five billion dollars.

The new Victory schedule will supply the war materials needed by Britain to continue to fight against Japan. In addition, lend-lease goods aimed at the war-weary British civilians will then be made available in larger quantities.

The two principal items for the civilians are: first, more foodstuffs to supplement the daily diet which the British have endured for over six years; and second, building material and refabricated houses to provide temporary shelters.

To a large extent this new schedule of the lend-lease after Victory Day will remove the ticklish problem that has worried the British industries. Under the terms of the lend-lease the British manufacturers were barred from using lend-lease raw materials in the manufacture of goods for commercial exports. So the lend-lease papers of the British industries will be free to purchase raw material needed to produce finished goods for their foreign customers. For example, iron and steel will probably be removed from the list of lend-lease shipments after January 1, 1945 and put on the list of items which the British metal fabricator may purchase direct from the United States mills.

The terms of Phase Two of the lend-lease were received in London with cheers tempered with the sober realization that the British bank roll is no longer fat enough to purchase in the open market all the raw materials she will need. By combing the lining of her money-bag Britain might be able to scrape together enough money to pay cash for the first few consignments of raw materials her factories must have.

The United States was not aware of this financial embarrassment on the part of its closest ally and best customer. Before the Congressional Sub-Committee on Foreign Trade last week came Dean Acheson, the able Assistant Secretary of State. He strongly recommended that Congress substantially increase the lending power of the Export-Import Bank and at the same time repeal the Johnson Act which prohibits private loans to nations that have not repaid their World War I debts to the United States.

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VERNACULARS COMMENT ON ROOSEVELT SPEECH

Luzon Landing, European War Other Subjects of Editorials By Tokyo Dailies

The futility and deceptive nature of President Roosevelt's recent congressional message were pointed out by the majority of editorials in the leading Tokyo dailies during the week ending January 12.

Other major topics of comment were: the American landing operations on Luzon Island, Chungking's latest declaration on constitution, the present European war situation and the Polish problem.

After pointing out that Roosevelt's message this year stresses on the future difficulties of the United States in the prosecution of the war situation on the part of the American people, the Asahi says that Roosevelt has departed from his usual custom of outlining the Administration's policies and that there is a special significance in that the American President has taken up what the Japanese side has been pointing out these months about the enemy's war situation. "The message indicates that the United States is feeling a great unrest and anxiety regarding the prosecution of the war when the war has just entered upon its decisive stage," the paper continues. Since the American Government has been telling the American people that their country has already won the war, it is only too natural that the peaople will refuse to listen to the advice to continue their war efforts in view of the increasing difficulties for their nation hereafter.

The American President may urge the people to be prepared for a great war crisis in the future, but the latter will never realize such a danger unless they actually see their enemy within their own territory. The real crisis of the United States will begin when that nation will face strategic frustrations, upsets and deadlock in their war operations and there arises domestic disturbances in consequence.

The Mainichi characterizes the tone of the presidential message as "apologetic" and "debaseful" which come from the personality of the President. The journal says: "His message composed of some 8,000 words only indicates the absolute futility of its statement. It never touches on who or what is menacing the American form of living or the existence of the American nation. Even President Roosevelt's art of propaganda does not enable him to discuss the abnormal domestic condition in regard to the production of war materials and American abnormal relations with the other members of the anti-Axis group. All this is due to the miscalculation of the future of the war by the American war leaders and to Roosevelt's utilizing the war situation for his recent election campaign. Roosevelt showed the height of his folly by his statement that the United States should settle such diplomatic issues as the Polish, Greek and Italian problems by her own power. His congressional message this year will go down in history as a colossal example of great folly."

The Yomiuri-Hochi observes that the congressional message of Roosevelt indicates the determination of the United States to exert her war efforts anew in view of the prevailing decisive and difficult war situation and of her cooperation with other members of the anti-Axis group. "But this very fact indicates the existing weakness of the anti-Axis group," the journal adds, and continues, "However, the enemy's endeavors to tell the people the existing crisis of the war situation and to establish closer cooperation with other members of their own camp must be correctly evaluated by us."

Regarding the enemy's latest operations in the Philippines, the Asahi points out that the enemy's real intention in his latest landing operations on the Lingayen areas is to capture Luzon Island in order to intercept the line of communications between Japan Proper and the Southern Region and also to utilize it as a base for air attacks on the mainland of Japan. The journal observes that the important decision made by Prime Minister General Kuniaki Koiso at the cabinet meeting on January 4 was intended as a countermeasure against these enemy operations. "If the enemy should attempt to make another successful landing like the one he made on Normandy last year," the paper continues, "then let him be prepared for another tragedy of Dunkirk."

The Mainichi endorses the recent statement of Prime Minister Koiso that the United States is frantically attempting to make up what she has lost on the European front, and describes the mounting difficulties of the United States in recent times. Since the first part of last year, the war leaders in America told their people that the war would be finished by the end of that year but were greatly dismayed by the sudden and great offensive undertaken by the Germans toward the close of last year. Moreover such major diplomatic issues as the leading anti-Axis conferences, the Atlantic Charter, the Polish and Greek affairs have placed the American people in a state of mental frenzy. Thus, the domestic situation in America has become increasingly serious so that the only way of coping with the situation for the American war leaders is to divert the attention of the American public to war activities in the Philippines areas and this explains the frantic and deadly offensives undertaken by the United States forces in the Luzon areas, the paper declares. The journal foresees that the enemy's failure to carry out the present Lingayen operations to a successful termination would prove the beginning of his domestic collapse.

The Yomiuri-Hochi points out that whatever may be the latest enemy operations, the battles around the Philippine areas will prove the deciding factor of the coming battles will be in turn decided by the superior air force.

The Tokyo Shimbun observes that the war situation in an around the Philippine Islands has become increasingly grave and urge that our side should seize the present great opportunity for making the enemy bow down in total defeat.

The Yomiuri-Hochi takes up Chiang Kai-shek's recent declaration promising to adopt a constitutional government and opines that his action was dictated by the increasing protests of both the United States and the Yenan regime against his dictatorial government and by their demand for political reform of some sort. The journal doubts the probability of Chiang satisfying either the United States or Yenan by his proposed constitutional enforcement and attaches least importance to the nature of such a constitutional government. "One thing is clear," the journal says, "that the problem of Chiang's dictatorship, so much criticized by the American side and the Chinese Communists, will never be settled by a mere declaration of intentions by Chiang himself."

The Tokyo Shimbun takes up the existing conditions in those European nations which are supposed to have been liberated by the Anglo-American nations such as Italy, France, Belgium and Greece. After referring to the selfish ambitions of the Anglo-American nations and the internal opposition within the anti-Axis group, the paper takes up the Polish problem and says: "The existing conditions in Poland and other so-called liberated countries will make the peoples of the world entertain the gravest doubt regarding the method of war prosecution on the part of the anti-Axis nations, apart from the question as to which side, the Axis or anti-Axis, will finally achieve victory. We have come to face the fact that war is being fought within the anti-Axis camp itself in addition to between the Axis and anti-Axis groups."

The Mainichi observes that Soviet Russia's recognition of the Polish Provisional Government at Lublin took place after a cautious deliberation. The journal recalls that the Polish question had been settled to all intents and purposes at the Teheran Conference and declares that the Anglo-Americans will pretend to have been astonished by the Soviet action before their peoples but will have to extend their own recognition also to the regime at Lublin. But the important point does not lie in the question of their recognition but in the fidelity of the Anglo-American nations. The undeniable fact is that Poland has been "brutally murdered" by the Anglo-American enemies.

CHOSENESE HONORED

Oyama Killed 10 Enemy Soldiers in Hand-to-Hand Fight

Domei

NANKING, January 9.—Second-Class Private Morishige Oyama, a Chosenese soldier, killed more than 10 enemy soldiers in a hand-to-hand battle during the Chuchow campaign in June last year. In recognition of his bravery, he was commended by General Yasuji Okamura, Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Army Forces in China.

Second-Class Private Oyama, a native of Heian, Chosen, entered the barracks last year and was immediately commissioned to a certain unit in Central China. With the commencement of the Chuchow operations, he participated in a night attack at Chengshengmiao, and in cooperation with Unit Commander Harada penetrated deep into an enemy artillery position. Charging into the midst of the enemy, he killed more than 10 soldiers.

Loses 3 Million Work Days

Domei

LISBON, January 12.—Three million working days were lost in England in 1944 because of strikes, the Folkets Daghblad reports. In the first nine months alone, 1,627 strikes occurred, most of them in the mining industry, the paper added.

Japanese Thought and Character

The Nippon Race

By SHUNKICHI AKIMOTO
Of The Nippon Times Staff

We have made some remarks on the two great principles in the development of the Japanese people—order and enterprise—which have acted like the two wings of a bird or the two wheels of a wagon, or better still, the two legs of a human being, in forwarding the body of this nation over the long and difficult paths of destiny to its present position of national stability and prestige.

What were the sources of these traits? Were they inborn in the Japanese character, inherited from their ancestors, or cultivated by self-discipline, or merely imposed upon them by force of necessity as by some compelling foreign culture?

When you see a man of high attainment in mind and character, and speculate on the possible qualities which may have contributed to his success, you will think of many factors: first, his education perhaps, then his birth or home life, his parents, friends, his own will and exertion. The same with a nation. Many causes have combined to produce Japan. I would give the foremost place to the merit of what may be called the Nippon Race.

Here a cynic may grin and whisper, "Does the Nippon race exist?"

A certain technical terminology has been developed in ethnological science in which are frequently mentioned a number of races supposedly forming the cardinal divisions of the human family, e.g., Latin, Teuton, Slav, Mongol, etc., and this catalogue does not apparently include the Nippon Race.

If as an ethnological theory the Nippon race does not exist, it nevertheless does as a tangible fact. He must be a deaf and blind man indeed who landing on Japanese soil cannot perceive that the people of this country constitute a distinct breed of men. How long must a community of men with their independent way of thinking and self-originating styles of life and culture exist and flourish on the face of the earth before they may be said to constitute a distinctive race? The world speaks of the Anglo-Saxon race and before long may be talking about the American race—not in reference to the American Indians, but what we may call neo-Yankee race, the species never seen before or elsewhere. Then why not the Nippon race which not only has existed for more than 2,600 years as a unique, homogeneous nation but possesses a racial and political continuity of unimaginable length far beyond that period?

Unity of Men

This is not to say, however, as an ultra nationalist literateur like Hirata Atsutane may say, that the Japanese had a separate pair of Adam and Eve to whom to trace in direct line their origin or that we have evolved from a specific kind of monkey to form the peculiar physiological type of body and mind that we have, so marvelously akin to other human beings evloved from different animals. If there is one point on which all ethnologists agree it is unity in the human race, or disbelief in the theory that different human species may have independently evloved from lower forms in different parts of the earth, acquiring the same physical structure under widely varying climatic and geographical conditions. It is a very significant fact in Japanese mythology that our first ancestors are described as being neither born nor created but as coming to exist through the mystic process of spontaneous or automatic procreation; they "sprouted like unto a reed-shoot" (see the Kojiki). It implies that the deities existed long before they came to or found this part of the world and that they caused many generations of self-born deities to appear till at last they culminated in the creative pair, Izanagi and Izanami, to whom we are indebted for the creation of the Japanese isles. (The deities here are the title we give to human beings who had existed before the historic period.) It is the reverse of the Hebrew version in which the world and all things therein were first created, man being the last to appear. It is evident that the Japanese deities, to form the original inhabitants of these isles, came from somewhere, thereby not contradicting the theory of ethnological unity of mankind.

Then arises the vexed question, from where did the Japanese arrive? Of the diverse answers or speculations made on this question we may quote a few. One, for instance, ascribes the Japanese origin to northern Burma and southern Tibet. There once lived, according to this theory, a puissant race in south central Asia, now called northern Burma and southern Tibet whose extensive domains reached to the eastern sea coast from which groups of them branded off to the adjacent islands, i.e., the Philippines, Formosa, Ryukyu, Kyushu, and they were an excellent type made of brave men and lovely women.

Another view traces the ancestors of Japan to the Hebrew race, claiming that their original home was in "Togarma" in Armenia, in support of which it is stated that "armes" in Armenia means "heaven," and "nia" "place," making "Takamagahara" (Plain of High Heaven) and Armenia identical. Several other similarities in belief and tradition are cited such as the sacrosanct significance attached to the numbers seven and 12, to confirm the Armenian theory.

Yet another theory finds the ancestors of Japan among the Bantu race of Africa, at least some tribe branched off from the ancient Egyptians, there being many words common to the Japanese and Bantu languages. The fact that Egypt was the first country to develop the cult of king-worship is mentioned as another evidence of the common origin as the Japanese had early shown a tendency to deify the Emperor as the living god. It is rendered doubly plausible by the consideration that ancient Egypt is generally supposed to be the original home of human culture as well as of the human race.

World's Purest Race

We know that in the early centuries of the Christian era there was an Eastern trade route across Arabia, Persia, Afghanistan, India and China, along which caravans of adventurous traders had travelled between East and West, and that Rome and China had maintained a brisk commerce in silk, iron and glass, of which a good many samples are preserved to this day in the Shosoin of Nara.

These and other considerations seem to testify that the first Japanese may have come from anywhere in the world. But one thing is certain: the great antiquity of the race. This was confirmed by a number of archaeologists and palaentologists of undoubted authority in a paper published in Tokyo not long ago. "Already during the stone age," these authorities say, "there existed in Japan a special race distinguished from all other races in the world." They further affirm that "this race was not driven out, as it is sometimes supposed, by a later race who brought with it Yayoi culture (Yayoi so called after the name of the street in Hongo, Tokyo where relics of Yayoi culture were first discovered), but has continued to exist, as represented by some persons in Hokuriku, northeastern Japan." Needless to say, the similarities between these Hokuriku people and their "stone-age ancestors" are only of physiological nature, having no reference to the great chasm of intellectual and moral development which must exist between them. What is most remarkable about it is the claim that this stone-age Japanese were distinct from the Ainu or Yayoi or any other race of men that may have come and gone in the prehistorical times, just as the ordinary Japanese of Yamato stock today are distinct from the Ainu found in the northern parts of the Empire. It is well known that a great many Ainu people have been in the course of centuries quite assimilated in the general Yamato stock, but this makes all the more astonishing the actual phenomenon we behold of the same original Ainu race living among us though in ever dwindling numbers.

Equally astonishing is the discovery made by the aforesaid scholars that some prototypes of the stone-age Japanese are still extant. If this is true as there is little ground for doubting it, then we may rightly claim the Japanese constitute the oldest and the purest racial stock that any nation may possess.

In Historic Era

It may be remembered that the so-called prehistoric ages are divided between the two—the old (paleolithic) and the new (neolithic)—and that they are followed by the Age of Metals, subdivided into Copper, Bronze and Iron, the latter lasting for about 5,000 years before the historic age is reached. What was the length of the stone ages we are not taught in exact figures, but they lasted perhaps not less than 100,000 years, of which the ninth parts must have belonged to the older. We know this division between the old and new stone ages was marked by their implements, the older age using chipped tools and the new age ground or polished ones. It makes a melancholy commentary on the slowness of human culture to reflect how our forefathers had taken nearly 90,000 years before they invented the simple art of grinding or smoothing their stone tools despite the fact that both sand and whetstone were so close at hand always. This, however, is no matter for wonder if we remember that it has taken us millions of years to invent the art of remaining under water or of flying in the air though we claim to be the lineal descendants of fish and birds, and how rare an accomplishment original thinking still is.

We will now descend from the dim past to the historic era where we stand on firmer ground. A glance at the map of East Asia and the general make-up of Japanese culture and race will show that the Japanese is not a single civilization but a fusion of many into one. Racially it is a harmonized blending of some prominent types: of the Mongolian from the north or northeast across the Japan Sea, the Oceanic from the southern seas such as Indonesians, Melanesians, Micronesians and Polynesians, and the native stock, be they Ainu or the aforesaid stone-age Japanese or both together with many other minor tribes gathered from different parts at different times.

No less evident is the fact that at the dawn of history there were scattered over the lengths of the land several centers of culture, rich in their respective local colors. First, at Yamato where Jimmu Tenno, the first Emperor of Japan, after subduing its rebellious elements, laid the foundations of the Japanese Empire in 660 B.C. Next at Idzumo where a high degree of stable culture had already developed either independently of Yamato or in friendly intercourse with it. It may be remembered that this classic province of Idzumo was once ruled by Susano-o no Mikoto, brother of the Sun Goddess and later by Okuni Nushi no Mikoto who wisely submitted to the "heaven-descended" deity Takeikadzuchi no Kami, the latter being enshrined in the famous Shinto Temple of Kashima, near Mito. After this conquest Izumo became a highly civilized center, its people showing great skill in arts and crafts as well as agriculture, and from among them subsequently appeared a great man like Nomi no Sukune, noted alike for physical prowess and statesmanship who served the Emperor Suinin Tenno (reign B.C. 29—A.D. 70) with high distinction. Thirdly, Tsukushi (Kyushu) was the island in which Ninigi no Mikoto, the beloved grandson of the Sun Goddess first descended from Takamagahara and from where Jimmu Tenno started upon his mighty conquering expedition, but which subsequently gave no end of trouble to the Court of Yamato because some incorrigible tribes came to settle there after Jimmu Tenno had departed.

Fourthly, we may refer to Kibi of Chugoku (central province) where Jimmu Tenno, after pacifying the disobedient elements had resided for some years before he set sail Yamato-ward. Kibi is famous in the annals of Kojiki and subsequent history for its "grandees" of high character and learning and for its beautiful charming women. Many a woman of Kibi was summoned to Yamato to serve in the Imperial Court, of which the beautiful romance of Kurohime (Black Princess) of Kibi is a good illustration. We also recall the distinguished career of Kibi no Mabi who served the Court in the Nara Period, the first and the last statesman in Japan to rise to the Prime Ministerial dignity by the sheer merit of learning unless it was Sugawara Michizane whose rank, however, did not rise beyond Udaijin (Minister of the Right).

'Hakko Iu'

These four and several other centers of civilization, each showing distinct features of material and intellectual progress were brought under the unifying control of the central Yamato government, and out of these has emerged in course of years a unique type of men we call Nippon Race. Naturally therefore some of the dominant characteristics of the diverse elements are reflected in the common race, i.e., hardy combative spirit of the original Ainu, love of order and settled peaceful life of Idzumo people and adventurous spirit and political genius of Kyushu conquerors who subdued and unified the different elements into one national family, realizing thereby the famous doctrine of "Hakko Iu."

Of course the race is not the only influence that can mold the character of a people, but in nations as in individuals we have seen too many illustrations of the truth that nurture alone can do nothing where nature is all wrong or that environment alone is powerless to counteract the kharmic influence of heredity.

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PRESS COMMENTS

Sunday, January 14

INDEPENDENT SOVIET POLICY

TOKYO SHIMBUN—When in December the German forces opened their new offensive on the Western Front, new activity by the Red Army on the Eastern Front was expected to forestall this offensive, but against expectations the action by the Red Army failed to develop into a great offensive, and apart from the Hungarian Front, the Eastern Front is still in a state of lull.

The British have termed this attitude on the part of the Red Army a "sit-down strike" and are saying that the Soviet Union is intentionally sabotaging anti-Axis military collaboration for political ends. Whether this be true or not, it cannot be denied that both militarily and politically the Soviet Union has recently been following an independent policy. Even during the mere two weeks since the beginning of the new year, the following instances have been noted: the formal recognition extended to the Lublin regime in disregard of Britain's wishes; the prohibition of the use of bases within Soviet territory by the American and British air forces, and the strife in connection with the installations at Rumanian oil fields. Thus, complications in the relations between the Soviet Union and the Anglo-American Powers have been aggravated.

A clash of interests between the Soviet Union and the Anglo-Americans is merely natural in view of their different war aims and is thus nothing new. But what appears to be new among recent realities is that the following impression is being received: the Kremlin seems to be of the opinion that, as far as the Soviet Union is concerned, the war in the narrow sense which consists chiefly in military action is about over, and now the stage of eminently political decisions has been reached.

As commonly known, the Soviet Union had stood on a platform of non-participation in what she termed "imperialistic war"; but eventually the German-Soviet war broke out and the Soviets found themselves aligned with the Americans and British. But the Soviets were not going to pull the chestnuts out of the fire for America and Britain: though the Soviet Union's war has been fought against the same enemy, Germany, it may yet be termed a war separated from that of America and Britain. Accordingly, in the course of the counteroffensive of the past two years, the Soviet forces have already advanced to the line envisaged as the future Western Frontier of the Soviet Union; the control over the Balkans and the securing of the Bay of Finland have been about completed at present, and the Soviet Union may thus be said to have altogether gained her war aim. There is thus no reason to doubt that hereafter the Soviet Union will push her world politics by political means, rather than by military action which entails sacrifices.

In this way, the antagonism between the Soviet Union and the Anglo-American Powers has now come to the surface, and we cannot believe that a complete understanding will be reached at the "Big Three" conference which is scheduled to be held shortly. But it would be premature to think that on account of this the collaboration among the Soviet Union and the Anglo-American Powers is being exposed to immediate danger. Because, probably, without such collaboration they would be faced by the danger of a new war before the war against the Axis countries has even ended, and this is what none of the three Powers want.

We must not impair our objective judgment of the situation by wishful thinking. But while keeping in mind that collaboration among the Soviet Union, America, and Britain is based on realistic calculations, we must pay due attention to the recent trend of the Soviet Union and the reaction to it on the part of America and Britain.

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GOVERNMENT TO SET UP NEW BANKING INSTITUTION

Overseas Funds Raising Bank Capitalized at ¥50 Million Being Formed in Tokyo

The Cabinet decided upon the establishment of an Overseas Funds Raising Bank at a session held on January 12 in order to improve the methods of raising overseas funds while bringing the institutions concerned under unified control.

The Government has hitherto relied upon the South Seas Development Bank and other institutions connected with the Southern Regions, in mobilizing the financial resources in different parts of Greater East Asia. In view, however, of the war situation; the Government saw the necessity of establishing a new institution as its agency.

The new bank, which will be capitalized at ¥50,000,000, will have its head office in Tokyo, with branches established in various centers of Greater East Asia. The whole capital will be supplied by the Government, and business will be started when the Government has paid the first instalment of the capital, which will be not less than one-fifth of the authorized capital.

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TOKYO, MONDAY, JANUARY 15, 1945

More Power Politics

The ruthless power politics policy of the United States has again been manifested toward Argentina, the only country in the Western Hemisphere which has had the courage not to stoop altogether to the demands of the Colossus in the North. The latest manifestation is the United States Government's decision to call a conference of the American Republics "collaborating in the war effort to consider war and postwar problems of common interest" to be held at Mexico City about the middle of February.

This decision of the United States Government deliberately ignores the request made last October by the Argentine Government to the Executive Committee of the Pan-American Union for a meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the American Republics for a discussion of Argentina's case, particularly her strained relations with the United States because of the latter's high-handed pressure methods. It is clear that the Executive Committee of the Pan-American Union, submitting to the dictates of Washington, had rejected the Argentine Government's request in utter violation of the latter's rights as a member of the Union.

The ruthlessness of the United States Government in its intention of diplomatically isolating the Argentine Government can be seen in the wording of the forthcoming conference to be called in Mexico City, restricting its participants to American Republics allegedly "collaborating in the war effort to consider war and postwar problems of common interest." For the United States Government's complaint has been that Argentina has not been a "collaborating Republic" and that naturally Argentina will have no place at the table in the projected parley at Mexico City. That apparently has been the same attitude taken by the other members of the Union, who have been browbeaten into temporary submission by the Colossus in the North.

It is no wonder, then, that the Argentine Government announced on January 10 that it would not participate in further meetings of the Pan-American Union until the latter had recognized its rights. It had no other alternative. But there is this comfort for Argentina—that the forthcoming discussions at the Mexico City conference on war and postwar problems of "common interest" to the American Republics can do little good without the collaboration of Argentina, the most important power in South America.

More Bad News for America

A few days ago the American people received a jolting New Year's message from War Mobilization Director James Byrnes when he directed the National Service Board to take the necessary steps for the induction of men between 18 and 25 who enjoyed agricultural deferments. That was a clear-cut admission of the serious manpower shortage situation in the United States. A heavier blow, however, has been dealt the American people by the statement of War Secretary Henry Stimson at a press conference on January 11 that substantially all physically qualified persons below 30 years of age will have to be called into the armed services during this year if "the needs of the armies at the front are to be met."

Significantly Stimson stressed that these men would have to be called from factory, farm and government, and that their places would have to be taken by older men, women and younger men not acceptable for military service. The blow to American war production is at once apparent. Stimson admits it when he emphasized the enactment of the national service law, which President Roosevelt proposed to the 78th Congress last year but which the latter shelved, as the most efficient method for utilizing the nation's manpower. "This is no time for piecemeal or makeshift legislation," Stimson declared to attest to the seriousness of the situation.

Stimson's statement is a most discouraging one to the American people because it shatters any hopeful picture they might have had of an early end of the war, particularly in Europe. Worse than that, the statement presages heavier losses for American manhood in the war President Roosevelt started in the hope of fulfilling his mad dream for world hegemony. Stimson's statement at the foregoing press conference—"The Germans are not going to accept the inevitable end without a fight to the finish"—is in itself a far cry from the American claims of last fall which predicted entry of American troops into Berlin by Christmas.

How painful Stimson's statement must be to the American public is easily seen from even the understated American army casualties of 564,351 up through December 29. This figure, however, does not include the stupendous losses suffered in the German counteroffensive which Field Marshal Gert von Rundstedt launched on December 16. The Germans are still continuing their offensive on the Western Front, particularly in the southern wing of the Alsace-Lorraine areas, making certain further heavy American losses.

And now comes an even heavier drain on American manpower—the landing on Luzon by MacArthur's forces. It is a foregone conclusion that the American losses will be stupendous before the furious attacks by the indomitable Imperial Forces under General Tomoyuki Yamashita, ready to inflict once for all an annihilative blow on the rash invaders. The circumstances being such, Stimson's statement and the MacArthur landing on Luzon are joint factors which must produce the heaviest gloom on the American people.

A Year Ago Today

January 15, 1944

The Wild Eagles of the Japanese Navy raided the enemy airfield and military establishments on Tarawa Island in two attacks on the night of January 12 and obtained great results. One place in the enemy position was exploded while two other places were set afire, one of which was enveloped in heavy flames. All the Japanese planes returned safely without any damage.

* * *

Regarding the casualties suffered by the United States Naval forces, including the marine corps and coast defense units, since the outset of the current war, the U.S. Navy Department made the following announcement, it was revealed: Out of the total of 34,728 casualties 15,316 were killed, 6,708 wounded, 8,412 missing, and 4,292 taken prisoner.

* * *

Intercepting about 160 enemy planes that came attacking Rabaul on the morning of January 14, Imperial Naval Air Units shot down 65 of them, including 18 probables, it was revealed.

* * *

A proposal that a four-Power conference of the Soviet Union, the United States, Britain and Poland should be held to unravel the Polish border tangle was put forward by the Polish refugee regime in a statement issued on January 14 in reply to the Tass statement, it was disclosed.

* * *

German forces on January 14 shot down 30 of the British four-engined bombers which raided Central Germany on the night of January 14, it was disclosed.

* * *

A total of nine enemy B-25's came attacking our positions on Taroa Island on the afternoon of January 12. Imperial Naval Fighter Plane Units immediately challenged them and after a serious combat set ablaze one of the enemy raiders and repulsed all the others. No damage was sustained by our Air Units.

* * *

On the morning of January 13, three four-engined enemy planes attempted to attack Kaimana on New Guinea Island but were all repulsed by the furious anti-aircraft gun-fire of our Ground Units stationed there. The Japanese side suffered no damage.

TRAGEDY OF ERRORS

British Fail in Establishing Order In Greece

(By A SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR)

I

The "Times" correspondent in Athens reports December 4 as follows:

As such wildly contradictory accounts have been circulated in Athens of the situation in Salonika, four cabinet ministers have gone to examine the conditions. In fact, the situation in Salonika is that the city and its immediate surroundings, are only administered by the ELAS forces under the command of General Airopides Bakirjis who before the war lived in exile in Rumania. Bakirjis was the first president of the Peoples' Committee of Liberation formed in Epirus.

Immediately after the German evacuation, the ELAS forces arrested 3,000 persons, but they were mainly members of the security battalions, the collaborators of the Germans, Bulgarians and Italians left behind, and some members of the extreme Right Wing parties.

In other respects, Bakirjis' force seems to be doing admirable work cooperating with the British forces and maintaining order. His organization is the only possible link with the adjacent village and is the only means by which relief work can be carried out in Salonika. In short, the ELAS have taken the place of the ordinary government administration.

Grave danger lies in the repeated efforts being made in Athens to inflame opinion, and especially British opinion into action to force the EAM and the ELAS to hand over Salonika to something which does not really exist, that is the Greek Government outside of Athens. The richer sections of the population exist in a state of terror for which there seems to be no real justification.

There is another potential danger in the presence of Bakirjis' side, of political Commissariat Markus, probably representing the Communist Party which appears far less strong in Salonika than thought. Although the Greek Communists deny any relations with the Bulgarian Communist Party, there is a feeling that Salonika may become the center for the movement for autonomous Macedonia which already is arising in Northern Greece.

Papandreou Faces Trouble

The Daily Herald diplomatic correspondent reports December 5 as follows:

As the Athens shooting brought Greece to the edge of an acute internal struggle and possible civil war, British diplomacy so managed things that we are now committed to the support of one faction in that struggle. It is an ugly prospect.

Ever since unity of a sort was achieved at the Lebanon Conference, one suspected that Premier George Papandreou was not aiming at a genuine coalition but assertion of his authority. Either the EAM leaders would accept a secondary role under him or he would, when he judged the moment ripe, break with them and try to suppress them. But he could do nothing until he was established in Athens, and unless convinced that he would have British support. Unhappily, instead of being restrained, he has been encouraged and led to believe that whatever action he might take against the EAM, he would have the British Government backing.

A crucial question has been the demobilization of the EAM guerrilla forces. Premier Papandreou, after a complicated intrigue and with British approval, has headed for trouble. He ordered the immediate disarming of all the EAM forces while his own troops were to remain armed. The pretext was that his were the forces of the regular National Army and the EAM troops guerrillas.

But the EAM leaders say that the government troops are not the National Army, but the Right Wing force carefully purged at the time of the mutinies in Egypt of the Left Wing elements.

The EAM feared that Premier George Papandreou left with only a Greek Armed Force, would set up a dictatorship and big elections. Whether that suspicion is justified or not, it was certain that the Papandreou policy would provide a clash. He was encouraged to proceed and promised British support.

Events followed logically, and as a result, he seemed well on the way to a Papandreou dictatorship, enforced by British arms.

The Times in its December 7 editorial entitled "Tragedy of Errors" writes as follows:

The disagreeable truth revealed by the news of the past three days from Athens is that the British armed forces, originally invoked in the desire to avoid bloodshed, have become involved in the Greek Civil War. Conflicting accounts from rival camps and lack of authentic evidence make it impossible to assign the precise responsibilities for the confused course of events immediately living up to it.

(To Be Continued)

AMERICA'S PHILIPPINE POLICY

Open Door Policy Proclaimed to Pave Way for United States Intervention in Affairs of East Asia

Editor's Note: The following article by Dr. Gunji Hosono appeared recently in the magazine Taiheyo. The author is an authority on international law. He was formerly director of the Overseas Section of the Dai Nippon Aviation Corporation, with which organization he is still connected.

In the Spanish-American War, the United States only seized Manila. But after driving out Spanish power from the Philippine archipelago by forcing the Filipinos to fight on the American side, the United States disregarded her promise to give them independence and took possession of the islands. Thus did American domination over the islands extending over 40 years begin and end in 1942 without the Filipinos acquiring their independence from the United States.

Japan, on the other hand, gave the Filipinos real independence on October 19, 1943. After securing independence, the Philippines has been manifesting great cooperation with Japan under the able guidance of President Jose P. Laurel for the prosecution of the war. Moreover, following the American air raids on the islands on September 23, 1944, the Republic of the Philippines declared war on the United States and Britain, after a lapse of less than one year since the proclamation of independence.

Much has been written about the Philippines and its people so that there is scarcely any room left for further discussions, but I wish to take up in the present article the United States policy toward the Philippines and to show why we must not allow the American enemy to retake the islands, and also to reveal the enemy's past misdeeds.

U.S. Acquisition of P.I.

It is said that the United States became a first-class power only after the American-Spanish War of 1898 as a result of which she secured Cuba, annexed Puerto Rico, swept away all Spanish influence from the Caribbean Sea and took possession of the Philippine Islands. It was during this year of 1898 that the United States entered world politics and that her leaders secretly entertained imperialistic ambitions. It is well known that it was such American statesmen as Theodore Roosevelt, Senators Henry C. Lodge and Albert Beveridge who succeeded in carrying out American policies in the Caribbean Sea and in East Asia and that these policies were stimulated by Admiral Mahan and the American Navy.

While the acquisition of Cuba and Puerto Rico was a result of careful planning the acquisition of the Philippines was accidental. True, both Theodore Roosevelt and Senator Lodge had cast their eyes on the Philippines but Admiral Mahan entertained no such ambition. Although the occupation of Taiwan by the United States as an advance post of American Asiatic commerce was recommended by American commissioner Peter Baker, at Macao as early as 1857, no thought of capturing the Philippines evidently occupied the minds of the American statesmen of that time. The declaration of the Republican Party in 1896 advocated the independence of Cuba and the annexation of the Hawaiian Islands, but no mention of the Philippines was made. When the Paris Treaty was discussed by Congress, the existence of the Philippines became a subject of discussion. However, even today many American citizens are ignorant of the vast importance of the Philippines to Japan. Not only that, they regard our nation as an aggressor, although the United States took possession of the Philippines only three years after the cession of Taiwan to Japan from China.

Japan on September 8, 1898 lodged a note with the United States Government which contained the following passage: "Although we recognize fully the American right to decide on the future of the Philippines, we are prepared in case the United States is unable singly to carry out the administration of the islands, that Japan, alone or in concert with some other interested nation establish a suitable government for the islands."

At that time, Germany had much concern about the Philippine Islands and was planning to purchase them from Spain. For this reason, Germany wished to prevent the outbreak of war between Spain and the United States over Cuba and in concert with the five European Powers of Britain, Russia, Italy, Austria and France sent a joint note to President McKinley, expressing their concerted desire to see the Cuban question settled peaceably. The "some other interested nation" mentioned in the Japanese note to the United States, probably referred to Germany. At that time there was also in Japan those who advocated a plan of purchasing the Philippines from Spain. According to Dr. Shunichi Nagaoka, Dr. Nagao Ariga urged in an article in the Diplomatic Review that Japan should purchase the Philippine Islands, expressing his apprehension that, if the Islands should pass into American hands, these will prove a source of international trouble in the future. This prophesy of Dr. Ariga's turned out to be true and American acquisition of the Philippines finally led to war between Japan and Uncle Sam.

America's Expansion Overseas

Before the Spanish-American War, the territories which were annexed by the United States were invariably situated near her own. It is by the occupation of the Philippines that the United States for the first time came into possession of a distant country. As the result of this territorial expansion, the American overseas defense line was expanded. In order to make her defense line effective for her new territory, the United States had to expand her navy several times her actual strength which was equivalent to many times the naval force Japan was capable of building at that time.

Moreover, while America's territorial expansion prior to the Spanish War increased her military potential and her national wealth. The acquisition of the Philippines by her added to her population a large number of people who could not be assimulated. Moreover, a stupendous sum of money was needed for the defense of the newly added territory in East Asia. The islands could not be colonized by the American farmers nor were the American industries then able to use the resources of the new colony. Because of all this, it was clear that the acquisition of the Philippines by America was a revolutionary change in her policy.

Charles Beard in one of his books explains the significance of the acquisition of the Islands substantially as follows: "While the traditional American diplomacy consisted in negative diplomatic routine work such as the protection of American citizens and the relations of commerce, immigration and culture, the acquisition of the Philippines provided the turning point. American diplomacy became positive and its political color became very pronounced. It was the so-called Open Door policy that made its appearance as the first work of American diplomacy in East Asia, the purpose of which was to maintain the balance of power in East Asia. The United States began to take collective action in order to maintain this balance of power and she even went to the extent of interfering in European affairs. Formerly, the United States participated in international conferences that discussed technical or humanitarian problems, but after the acquisition of the Philippines she participated in international conferences for the purpose of discussing political or military affairs. Thus, the United States participated in the Hague Peace Conferences (1899 and 1906) and the conference that discussed the Morocco question. The United States participated in Far Eastern affairs in order to uphold the Open Door policy and to defend the Philippines, but in so doing she was unconsciously dragged into European politics against which she had always guarded herself in the past.

Object of Open Door Policy

The East Asiatic policy of the United States, after her occupation of the Philippines has been the Open Door policy which was an instrument for maintaining the balance of power in the Orient. It is said that the reason why Theodore Roosevelt accepted the role of mediator between Japan and Russia during the Russo-Japanese War was that he wished to maintain the then existing balance of power in East Asia, instead of letting both parties continue in the war until one of them became totally exhausted. Inasmuch as the Open Door policy is intended to maintain the status quo it is only too natural that the American policy should have come to clashes with the Japanese policy of breaking up the status quo. But sagacious Theodore Roosevelt avoided such a clash with Japan by means of his "appeasement policy." He tried to assure safety to the Philippines by recognizing Japan's special position in both Manchuria and Chosen, as indicated by the Katsura-Taft Conference (1905) and the Takahira-Root agreement (1908). The Ishii-Lansing agreement of 1917 was no other than an example of the American appeasement policy, the object of which was to secure the safety of the Philippines.

Theodore Roosevelt thus exempted Manchuria from the application of the Open Door from his fear of a Japanese attack on the Philippines, but during the Taft Administration, the then Secretary of State Knox angered Japan by his proposal for the neutralization of Manchuria. Since that time the United States continued openly to reveal her imperialistic designs under the name of the Open Door policy in order to check Japanese expansion and national growth. The inimical policy of America pursued continuously by United States Secretaries of State Bryan, Hughes, and Stimson as well as the American scheme to enter into the China consortium were the policies of oppression against Japan in East Asia.

McKinley's Instructions

The first sign that the Open Door policy was interlocked with the problem of the Philippines was seen in the presidentail intructions given to an American envoy on September 19, 1898. In these instructions, President McKinley stated: "With the occupation of the Philippines, American statesmen could not remain indifferent to trade opportunities. We shall utilize suitable means in order to expand American trade in East Asia, but we shall not seek economic interests that are not commonly shared by all nations. While the United States seeks the Open Door, she is prepared to extend the same privilege to other nations."

Opposition to the occupation of the Philippines by some circles in the United States was based upon her incapability of defending the islands. And on the same gound the abandonment of the Philippines was also often discussed. Even President Theodore Roosevelt, who was chiefly in favor of taking over the Philippines, was once reported to have considered abandoning the islands. Although the United States acquired this new territory at Japan's very doorsteps, she was gravely apprehensive of our southward advance. She realized that she could not defend the islands singlehanded against attacks by Japan; and, in consequence, she often attempted to check Japan by some collective action, together with other nations such as Britain and France, in the name of the Open Door. After the status quo in East Asia was broken up in favor of Japan during the First World War, the United States called the Washington Conference at which she succeeded in abolishing the Anglo-Japanese Alliance and in bringing pressure to bear upon Japan by means of the Nine Power Treaty and the Washington Naval Treaty. And it is still fresh in our memory that, as soon as Japan dispatched troops to French Indo-China for common defense, the United States established the so-called A.B.C. encirclement against Japan with the object of holding the Philippines.

Although, after the conclusion of the Nine Power Treaty, it was the responsibility of all the signatory nations to uphold the Open Door policy, the United States took the responsibility of protection upon herself, regarding herself as the guardian of the Open Door. At the time of the Manchuria Incident, the United States tried to apply the Nine Power Treaty but was opposed by both Britain and France and at the time of the China Affair she caused Belgium to call a Nine Power conference at Brussels, which, however, adjourned without achieving any results. But these nations later participated in the A.B.C. encirclement pressure against Japan.

Britain Profits by Policy

The Open Door policy however principally benefited Britain and very little gain was actually secured in trade by the United States. The Open Door policy did not result in any increase in America's China trade as in the case of Britain. On the contrary, America's trade with Japan increased.

But it is easy to see why the United States adhered steadfastly to such an unfavorable policy: she wished to insure the safety of the Philippines by maintaining the balance of power in East Asia by means of the Open Door policy.

The Republican Party was opposed to the policy of granting independence to the Philippines ever since the time of the absorption of the Islands until the time when President Hoover rejected the Hares-Hawes-Cuttings Independence Bill. On the other hand, the Democratic Party was opposed to the acquisition of the Philippines from the very start. In 1915 President Wilson granted partial autonomy to the Philippines through the Jones Act and promised the granting of complete independence at a future date. In 1934 President Franklin Roosevelt approved the Tydings McDuffie Independence Act. According to this act the Philippines was to secure complete independence by 1946 but the United States reserved the right to the naval bases in the Islands. President Roosevelt also abolished by the so-called Platt Amendment which created a protectorate over Cuba but he retained the American naval base in that country. We can understand some reason on the part of America for her retention of bases in Cuba in view of her geographical propinquity to American territory; but the retention of the American naval base in the case of the Philippines cannot but be taken as evidence of American imperialistic ambitions to dominate East Asia. With the opening of the War of Greater East Asia, it was clearly established that the United States had established permanent fortresses at Corregidor and Bataan Peninsula. This conclusively testifies to the fact that the United States wanted to give only nominal independence to the Philippines and that she had no intention of abandoning the Islands.

I have endeavored above to clarify the connections between the United States' possession of the Philippines and her East Asian policy and between the Open Door policy and the problem of the Philippines. In her relations with the Philippines alone the United States revealed many inconsistencies. She allowed Cuba to enjoy independence instead of annexing that territory after the Spanish War, although Cuba is situated near American territory; on the other hand, the United States took over the Philippines which is separated from the American Continent by 7,000 miles, instead of giving her independence. Again, whereas the United States gave citizenship to the people of Puerto Rico, she flatly refused to do so in the case of the Filipinos. Shortly after the United States announced her policy of the Open Door in China, she tried to secure a base in Fukien as a coal supply depot. Moreover, while the United States upheld non-intervention in European affairs as her traditional policy, she intervened in East Asian affairs. Some of the intelligent people of the United States, however, have admitted the mistakes of America's East Asian policy. For instance, Professor Bemis of Yale University, a noted authority on diplomatic history, enumerates the following as examples of this failure: (1) the acquisition of the Philippines; (2) the Open Door policy; (3) mediation in the Russo-Japanese War, and (4) Knox's proposal for the neutralization of Manchuria. He states that the acquisition of the Philippines by the United States was the biggest mistake of all.

Since the failure of the American East Asian policy has been admitted by some of the Americans themselves, the United States should have speedily withdrawn from East Asia. Then, the War of Greater East Asia could have been avoided. It is high time that the United States should return to the American Continent by throwing away her imperialistic ambitions in East Asia. But apparently the United States is determined to carry out her imperialistic ambition, General MacArthur is at present frantically attempting to recapture the Philippines but our Empire is determined to defend the independence of the Philippine Republic by virtue of the treaty of alliance with that Republic.

YANKEE CHARACTER

U.S. Literature Testifies to Violent Streak in American People

By FUJITARO HOSOIRI

I

There is a O. Henry Prize for short stories which is rather highly appreciated in the literary circles in the United States. The persons who received the O. Henry Prize in 1938 were Albert Maltz, Richard Wright and John Steinbeck. These three writers have been active in the literary and dramatic circles of America just before the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia. It is a strange coincidence that the three have each been publishing works possessing a symbolic significance.

Maltz was born in Brooklyn, New York; Wright in Natchez, Mississippi, and Steinbeck in Salinas, California. The three men each represents in general the East, South and West of the United States. Maltz is an American of Jewish ancestry; Wright, a Negro, and Steinbeck, an Anglo-Saxon from the New England states with a mingling of German blood. This fact must be especially considered in studying literature such as that in the United States where literary works are influenced by the environments of the writers.

Works by Maltz and Wright are literature revealing a social consciousness. Steinbeck also revealed this tendency more or less but it is more appropriate to consider him as a writer pushing his way through the main stream of American literature. In his prize story, "The Happiest Man In The World", Maltz describes with a simple and powerful stroke the life of a truck driver in the economic background of America in the 12 pages of his work. The hand of American capitalists is seen controlling the will of the truck driver. Maltz, acclaimed as a young Gorki, published his first long story, "Underground Stream", in June, 1940. This story depicts an incident occurring between 10 p.m. on a Saturday in February, 1936 and 6 a.m. on Tuesday in Detroit. The story develops on a main pivot of an opposition between an auto mechanic and a self-independent manager representing the capitalist side. The manager tries to make the will of his mechanic his own. He hires an underling, who seizes the mechanic, persuades him to change his mind, tortures and finally butchers him. Such an incident is not rare in the conflict between capital and labor in America. Such incidents are hushed up in a great number of literary works dealing with such problems. This is a phase of America where the integrity and lives of others are not taken into consideration when the matter is concerned with one's own profits.

Scenes in which people are slaughtered in peacetime in America are frequent when the opposition between capital and labor becomes aggravated and when the capitalists resort to brutal force. Deeds of cruelty are not seldom described in literary works which powerfully depicted the social consciousness in the United States. Anglo-Saxon descendants view the Jews with hostility, especially as there are several Jews among the leaders of labor. These Anglo-Saxon Americans frequently commit inhumane and cruel acts against the Jews. Maltz's dramatic piece, "Private Hicks", is a representative work in this sense.

Attention should be paid to Richard Wright for having dealt with the problem of social and racial consiousness of the Negro. His prize work, "Fire And Cloud," is set before the background of a small city in the South. The triangular relations between the Negro with a strong death-defying will, the shiftless poor whites and the white capitalists and his people are depicted with the peculiar Negro dialet for local color. A Negro is oppressed by the whites when a poor white farmer betrays him. The Negro is arrested by the whites who abuse police power. They try to make the Negro confess his connections with the labor union. A torture of undescribable cruelty, which one cannot bring himself to describe here, is carried out against the Negro. He is bound with ropes, his arms are broken, his ear-drums pierced and he finally dies like a rat in the gutter. The scene will compel the reader to cover his eyes from the gruesome sight and at the same time his feeling of sympathy and righteousness for the Negro will change into one of hatred against the white Americans.

As William Carlos Williams, a doctor and poet, has pointed out in his, "In The Wheat Of America," the American public is oppressed by a subconscious feeling of bottomless fear toward the Jews and Negroes. The Americans are driven to brutal and cruel acts, especially against the Negroes when violence, a hidden element in the Americans, explodes together with this subconscious fear.

Superiority Complex of Whites

This can be said, in a way, to be a means of protecting the superiority complex of the white race. Lynching of Negroes by the whites is not seldom in the South. There are instances when the Negroes actually commit criminal deeds, but in the numerous literary works dealing with the South, Negroes are killed on the flimsy excuse of having committed some acts against the white people and they are not given the justice of being heard in a law court beforehand. There is a scene in the novel, "Riot In June," published by Asthkin Cauldwell in 1940, and similar ones in his short stories where the white people hunt for a Negro fleeing in the woods and where they finally massacre him. Such scenes are also portrayed in pure literary works such as, "The Night of the Poor," which has been published by Frederick Prokoshu in 1939. Cauldwell describes in his short story how the white people gather together in a wood beneath a tree where a Negro had climbed up for safety and how they bring him down like a bird or an animal. A pitiful and ugly sight of a Negro being butchered by the whites for having talked back or having been rude to a white person is depicted by Cauldwell. The portrayed whites are coarse beings no better than animals.

Kenneth Park called Cauldwell a "grotesque writer." "Have, You Seen Their Faces?", a joint work by Caulwell and Margaret Burke-White and which may be considered as an introductory of a photo album, describes the raw sight of poor white farmers and Negroes suffering under hardships and living a life below human standards.

There are still ruins in the South caused by the destruction and violence committed by the North against the South in the Civil War. They are reflected in the numerous historical novels on the Civil War which had been popular from 1920 to 1930.

Wright published a novel entitled, "Negro's Son" in 1940 in which the strife and opposition between the white and black population in Chicago is depicted and in which the ugly corpse of the Negro is exposed. With the exception of the corrupted life of the rich white Americans, one is unable to see any light which may be called the American civilization in this novel. This novel appeared in the footlights of Broadway as a drama and was popular until the outbreak of the present war. This together with the continued performance of the "Tobacco Road" since 1933, reveals one side of the American character as seen through the tastes of the theater-going audience in the United States. Literary works dealing with the white and black problem and describing scenes of lynching are especially numerous in the South. It cannot be denied that there is a large number of works in which one is led to the conclusion that the author is finding the outlet of his dissatisfaction with life and also his excessive energy by depicting the maltreatment of the Negroes.

(To Be Concluded)